

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HUD-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

XMB-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 OPIC-06

EPG-02 /055 W

-----260419Z 046296 /20

R 252207Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3264

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 1971

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECRE, ECON, NZ

SUBJECT: DECREASE IN BUILDING PERMITS FOR MARCH 1977 OVER MARCH 1976

1. ACCORDING TO THE LATEST FIGURES RELEASED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS, BUILDING PERMITS AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF 2,775 NEW HOUSES AND APARTMENTS WITH A VALUE OF \$60.6 MILLION WERE ISSUED IN MARCH 1977 WHICH REPRESENTS A DECREASE OF 19.4 PERCENT IN NUMBER OVER MARCH 1976 AND A DECREASE OF 13.8 PERCENT IN VALUE. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS AUTHORIZED FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1977 IS 30,071 VS 32,189 FOR THE SAME PERIOD ENDED IN 1976 AND 33,101 FOR 1975.

2. OF THE 2,775 UNITS, 267 WERE AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT VS 558 IN MARCH 1976.

3. THE VALUE OF NEW DWELLING PERMITS WAS \$632.2 MILLION FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1977 VS \$593.4 MILLION AND \$546.6 MILLION FOR THE SIMILAR PERIODS ENDING IN 1976 AND 1975 RESPECTIVELY.

4. THERE WERE 2,600 DWELLING UNITS STARTED, 2,900 COMPLETED AND 30 CREATED BY CONVERSION DURING MARCH 1977  
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VS 2,300 STARTED, 3,300 COMPLETED AND 20 CREATED BY CONVERSION IN MARCH 1976.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Markings:**  
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